

NOVEL SECRETORY MEMBRANE PROTEIN

Abstract of the Disclosure

Three genes encoding secretory membrane proteins have been successfully isolated from an osteoblast-like cell line
5 by a method for specifically cloning secretory membrane proteins. One of these genes encodes a novel receptor protein. The protein has only the extracellular region, binds to the cell membrane via a GPI anchor, and carries therein a cysteine-rich, repetitive region commonly conserved
10 in the TNF receptor super family. Overexpression of this protein in osteoblast-like cell line cells suppresses cell proliferation, changes cell morphology, and increases alkaline phosphatase activity, which is one of markers for differentiation of osteoblasts.

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